

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 21-32 are pending. Claims 1 and 21 are independent. In the Office Action, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by admitted prior art. Claims 1-4 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Halliday (USPN 3,614,481). Claims 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Halliday. Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for granting the telephone interview conducted on October 22, 2003. During the interview, the 112 first paragraph rejection, the prior art rejections, and claim 1 as amended herein were discussed. It was agreed that if claim 1 was amended to include "providing a moveable component" and to include "micrometer scale or less" instead of "micro-manufacturing", the 112 first paragraph rejection and the prior art rejections would be overcome. These amendments are provided herein, and thus the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of these rejections. Claims 1-8 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that listing of references in the specification is not a proper IDS. The Gibson reference (USPN 5,557,596) was listed in the specification. The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for considering the Gibson reference and listing the Gibson reference in the PTO-892 received with the Office Action.

OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The abstract and the title were objected. Both the abstract and the title have been amended, and thus the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of these objections.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112 First Paragraph

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph. As agreed in the interview, the amendments to claims 1-8 are believed to have overcome the rejection under 112 first paragraph, and the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by admitted prior art, and claims 1-4 and 7-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Halliday.

When making a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102, a necessary condition is that the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention either explicitly or impliedly. (see MPEP, §706.02). If any claimed element is missing from the applied reference, then the claim is distinguishable over the reference.

Independent claim 1 recites, wherein at least one of the moveable component, the first protrusion and the second protrusion is of a micrometer scale or smaller. As agreed in the interview, neither Halliday nor the admitted prior art teach a movable component or protrusion being of a micrometer scale or smaller. Accordingly, claims 1-8 are believed to be allowable.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Halliday. Claims 5-6 are dependent on claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for at least the same reason as claim 1. Furthermore, Halliday fails to teach or suggest the first and second protrusions including different materials. The rejection of claim 1 states that using different materials to create tribocharging between contact surfaces is well known as disclosed in the admitted prior art. However, claim 1 does not recite the first and second protrusions are in contact with each other. Thus, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include different materials in the first and second protrusions as claimed.

NEWLY ADDED CLAIMS

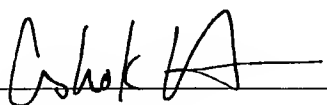
Claims 21-32 are newly added. Claims 21-24 are dependent on claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for at least the same reason as claim 1. In addition claims 21-24 recite features not taught or suggested by the prior art. Claims 21-23 are directed to nanometer scale components not taught or suggested by the prior art. Claim 24 includes a translating movable component not taught or suggested by the prior art. Independent claim 25 recites movable components and protrusions of a micrometer scale or smaller. Claim 25 also recites using two sets of components with the source and drain. These features are not taught or suggested by the prior art. For at least these reasons, claims 21-32 are also believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

As all of the outstanding rejections have been traversed and all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, the Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowability. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 23, 2003

By  _____

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